

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

SUBJECT Weekly Summary

DATE DISTR.

24 JAN 1968

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(Ustinov appointed to Council of Ministers, Belgrade/Moscow controversies, obligations under Warsaw Pact, Sov Aid to Yemen, Czech soldiers used for brigade work, Rumanian uniforms, special training Polish AF officers, Coastal defenses, Serbia)

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A. Political - Economic

1. Appointment of Ustinov to the Position of Deputy Chairman of the Soviet Council of Ministers.

F.D. Ustinov, previously Minister for the Defense Industry, was made Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers. (press)

(Comment: This appointment again raises the number of deputy minister presidents to four, and the Presidium of the Council of Ministers may again be assumed as being in existence. It must be noted, however, that this Presidium now has the character of a little "Economic Cabinet" in which Bulganin represents the State apparatus; Mikoyan - as a prominent member of the Central Committee Presidium - the Party and foreign trade; Kuzmin, the economic administration; Kossygin, the consumer goods industry; and Ustinov scientific research work.

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2. Revival of Controversies between Moscow and Belgrade

The "Pravda" published two sharp articles against revisionism and nationalism which were clearly directed against Yugoslavia. (press) The Central Committee of the Yugoslav Communist Party, already prior to its resolution on the Moscow 12-Party declaration which clearly pointed out the divergencies of opinion existing between Yugoslavia and the USSR, issued a press directive, according to which all anti-Soviet polemics were to be avoided [redacted].

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In various areas of Yugoslavia, a certain opposition against increased cooperation with East Bloc countries has made itself felt. This opposition is mostly borne by workers including Party members and trade union men. Minor demonstrations have occurred, threats of strike were voiced and short strikes have been organized. Some passive resistance has also been observed among the officer corps [redacted].

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(Comment: It is not to be expected that Belgrade is going to carry the renewed ideological quarrel with Moscow to extremes. Yugoslavia is trying to get rid of its present isolation and will therefore avoid everything which may increase inner strife among the Party leadership, the bulk of the Party membership, the Army and the people generally. Domestic conditions in the country give rise to certain apprehensions [redacted].

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So far, Tito's personal prestige has been able to curb all inner conflicts. In future, the influence of the pro-Cominform Yugoslav Communists must be reckoned with, however. At present, these elements are still keeping in the background.)

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3. A New Post for Zhukov?

Among the Soviet people and in Army circles the future assignment of Zhukov is again being discussed more openly. It is believed that wide circles of the officer corps are still sympathizing with Zhukov, and his re-employment, possibly in the capacity of a teacher at a military establishment, is believed possible. Malinowski is said to have stated in the meantime that a Marshal can neither be deposed nor downgraded unless he was guilty of a criminal offense

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(Comment: Zhukov is now hardly mentioned in the Soviet press. His re-assignment to a post which does not give him any influence on wider circles of the army is well possible.)

4. Offer of Soviet Warships to Poland

According to a still unconfirmed report, the USSR has offered Poland the lease of a destroyer and several smaller units of the Soviet Navy for the strengthening of the Polish coastal defense. In making this offer, the USSR is referring to its obligations resulting from the Warsaw Pact

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(Comment: The information may be true, since Poland, already in late 1956, prior to the change of the Soviet course, received from the USSR some submarines and submarine chasers, and in the summer of 1957, speedboats.)

5. Soviet Aid for Yemen

Under the direction of 43 Soviet specialists who recently arrived in Yemen, the ports of Salif and Hodeida are being improved. The USSR is, allegedly, willing to execute this work at its own expense in order to make these ports usable for larger ships

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(Comment: This intention clearly reflects the Soviet endeavor to have available naval bases also outside the Iron Curtain. In view of the physical properties of the coast and the navigable water, the establishment of modern harbors on the Yemenite coast will only be possible with the greatest difficulties.)

6. The Position of Former Wehrmacht Officers in the NVA

At the 35th Plenum of the SED Central Committee scheduled to be held in February 1958, the problem of the tightening of SED control over the NVA is also to be discussed. A major point in this question is that the NVA is now in a position to go without the further employment of former Wehrmacht officers. These officers would have been removed at an earlier date if Marshal Grechko had not supported them

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(Comment: No information has so far been received on Grechko's attitude to the utilization of former Wehrmacht officers by the NVA. The report therefore requires confirmation. However, the tendency of the SED to have these officers removed from the NVA has been observed for some time. No information has so far been received on the relegation of Vincenz Mueller, which had been reported by JWE.)

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7. Trade Union Congress at Rostock

In December 1957, a trade union conference is scheduled to be held at Rostock. This conference will reportedly be attended by Polish and probably also Soviet delegations. [REDACTED]

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(Comment: The holding of this trade union congress is probably connected with the propaganda offensive for the neutralization of the Baltic Sea.)

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B. Armed Forces

I. USSR and "United" Forces (Warsaw Pact)

Total Strength

Personnel Exchange (GDR - USSR)

Prior to 10 Dec 1957, following additional border-crossing personnel shpmts observed:

USSR - GDR: 5 loaded trains;

GDR - USSR: 9 loaded trains;

3 empty trains.

(Comment: Personnel exchange continued according to schedule; total of 100 border-crossing shpmts as far observed.)

II. GDR

1. High-Echelon Organization

Late Oct/early Nov, Col Bauer, a deputy of the Chief of the Air Force and Air Defense, accompanied by officers of the Air Force and Air Defense, inspected 1st AAA Div []

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(Comment: This fairly credible report confirms assumption that 1st AAA Div, at least since mid-1957, subordinate to Maj Gen Kessler, Chief of Air Force and Air Defense.)

Col Bauer known as Chief of the Administration of the Air Defense in the Ministry for National Defense.)

2. Total Strength

Success up to November in the propaganda campaign to volunteer in the NVA not sufficient to compensate personnel discharges made in fall []

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(Comment: Difficulties in the procurement of active personnel except for officers not surprising. Compensation to be brought about by increased training of reservists such as SED members and intensification of paramilitary training in the GFST and combat groups. Apparently, however, readiness for voluntary service decreasing more and more. Disappointment by agencies employed in the recruitment campaign disappointed due to lack of activity. Extent of strength decrease not yet determined. Result of decrease not yet clear since measures under way (campaign by NVA units proper) to cover lacking number of recruits prior to beginning of new training year.)

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III. Poland

General

The Committee for National Defense has passed a pension bill for active soldiers and their dependents. According to this bill, active soldiers may claim pensions after at least 15 years of service. Pension amounts to 40 percent of the pay and increase to 85 percent of the pay after 30-years' service. Service on the front is counted double. Discriminating stipulations so far effective for soldiers serving with military units of Western Allies during WW II and soldiers who fought with guerilla units were abandoned. The draft bill is to be forwarded to the Sejm for debate (Polish Radio, 8 Dec 1957).

(Comment: Equality for soldiers fighting in non-Communist units against Germany during WW II noteworthy. Bill is a further step toward rehabilitation of soldiers. [redacted]

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IV. Czechoslovakia

Replacement Administration

In Oct/Nov 1957, it was learned in Brno that soldiers of various arms who had terminated their 2-year term of service were not discharged. They were pressed into brigade work in mining or agriculture and forestry for at least 3 months [redacted]

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(Comment: No definite results available on the discharge of the 1935 and 1936 classes who had terminated their 2-year term of service in 1957. Most available reports confirm that discharges were made according to schedule. Other reports stated that discharges in individual units had to serve an additional 3 months. Not yet determined if this is partial prolongation of term of service or limited obligation for civil work (e.g. mining). [redacted]

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V. Rumania

Uniforms

In mid-Oct 1957, mountain infantry men guarding kaserne entrances observed in Stalin (Brasov, Kronstadt) and Codlea, 12 km northwest of Kronstadt. Uniform of mountain infantry men differed from the regular uniform in the following respect:

Beret with Soviet star and letters RPR

Knickerbockers and wrap puttees

Mountain boots

Some officers observed wearing officers' service cap with black cap band instead of beret. (F-3)

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(Comment: Occupation of Kronstadt area by mountain rifle units confirmed. 2d Mountain Div with headquarters in Kronstadt assumed in this area. Earlier reports on the abolition of berets and mountain boots are disproved by above report.)

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Annex to Part B,

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Personnel Exchange

From 2 to 10 Dec 1957, following additional border-crossing personnel shipments observed:
(C/B - Converted Boxcar)

Date in December	Type of Shipment	From	To
2	Shuttle Train 	Magdeburg-Brueckfeld	-
3	Shuttle Train 	Magdeburg-Brueckfeld	Brest-Litovsk
	Shuttle Train 	Brest-Litovsk	Magdeburg
	48 empty C/B	Potsdam	USSR
4	116 axles (800 tons)	Cottbus distr	Kuestrin
	116 axles (850 tons)	Cottbus distr	Frankfurt/Oder
5	116 axles (800 tons)	Greifswald distr	Brest-Litovsk
6	116 axles (800 tons)	Frankfurt/Oder	Cottbus distr
	116 axles (800 tons)	Jueterbog/Altes Lager	Kuestrin
7	116 axles (900 tons)	Bernau	Kuestrin
	116 axles (600 tons)	Cottbus distr	Kuestrin
	116 axles (800 tons)	Kuestrin	Jueterbog/Altes Lager
	116 axles (800 tons)	Kuestrin	Cottbus distr
	116 axles (800 tons)	Seelow/Mark	Greifswald

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Date in December	Type of Shipment	From	To
9	116 axles (500 tons)	Cottbus distr	Frankfurt/ Oder
9/10	116 axles (900 tons)	Justerbog/Altes Lager	Kuestrin
10	116 axles (900 tons)	Bernau	Kuestrin

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(Comment: Total number of shipments crossing the border in both directions is increased to 100 by above-listed 17 shipments.)

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C. ArmyI. USSR1. Locationa. GDR

23-29 Nov, Schmorkau summer camp of Koenigsbrueck troop tng gr
inel some foundations being dismantled. Barracks sections shipped
toward Dresden and to Camp Zeithain (1901).
Units of Koenigsbrueck signal school (1521) allegedly to be
transferred to Rothenburg north of Goerlitz where initially
four lean-to roofs for tanks will be built []

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(Comment: Still undetermined whether dismantling of Schmorkau
summer camp is connected with alleged transfer of elms 11th Gds
Tank Div.)

b. Hungary

Soviet occupation observed:

Budapest: Bajosy Zeilinsky Police Barracks, former Ferenc
Jozsef Cavalry Barracks near Hungaria koerut:
Jul 1957, u/i unit with 1,500 to 2,000 men (red),
15-20 trucks, 4-5 BA-64s, 3 APCs.
Gabor Aron Barracks, former Graf Andrassy Barracks
on Hungaria koerut: Jun 1957, u/i unit (red), 8-10
box-like vehicles with rod and frame antennas, 20-25
trucks, 4 armored scout cars, 2 tracked sedans.
Kossuth Academy on Uelloei-ut: Jun 1957, u/i unit.
Former central army motor vehicle depot at Matyas-
foeld, west of airfield: Jul 1957, motor vehicle
repair shop.
Sashalom, south of Nagy Iocse stop at Pesti Hatar ut:
Jul 1957, motor vehicle and tank repair shop with
spur track. Late Jun 1957, 8-10 rr cars loaded with
motor vehicles and tanks moved into the area.
Kiss Janos Barracks, former Ferenc Jozsef Infantry
Barracks on Uelloei-ut: Jun 1957, tank unit (black)
500-600 men ?, 16-20 T-34s.

Aszod: Jun 1957, tank unit (black), 4-5 T-34s.

Szentendre: Barracks at southeastern edge: Jul 1957, arty
unit.
Engineer Barracks: Jul 1957, u/i unit.

Szentendre-Vissgrad: 25-30 motorboats on Danube River.

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Szokesfehervari barracks installation on south side of Budai-
ut: Apr 1957, u/i unit with 2,000 - 3,000 men (black-
bordered red epaulets), 15-20 T-34s.

Kiskunfelegyhaza: barracks 1 km southwest of city, on western
side of rr line to Kiskunhalas: spring of 1957, u/i
unit.

Pecsi: former Hungarian border guard barracks at northeastern
edge of town, on northern side of road leading to
Pecsvard: Aug 1957, rifle (?) unit. Several u/i
guns in barrack yards.

Szekszard: Sep 1957, unit in company strength marching through
town. Numerous officers with dependents

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(Comment: Accord to other info, Soviet units in Hungary in late
Nov 1957 were subordinate to an u/i high command in Budapest
and divided into three command areas:

- a. Western command area with u/i headquarters in Szekesfehervar
comprises area west of Danube River with u/i Div Kapuvar -
Sopron - Szombathely - Koermend, formerly 17th Gds Rifle
Div, u/i Div Celldoemerk - Veszprem - Mor, 318th Mt Rifle
Div (?) Dombovar - Tamasi - Nagykaisza - Pecs - Szekszard,
and area betw Danube and Theiss Rivers south of Kecskemet
with 35th Gds Mecsk Div Kiskunhalas (formerly Szeged) - Kalocsa - Kiskun-

felegyhaza - Baja - Szeged

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- b. Central area with assumed Hq 2d Gds Mecsk Div in Kecskemet
as command agency. The extension of this area (Cegled -
Gyongyos - Assod - Szentendre - Sarborgard) confirms
previous assumption that 2d Gds Mecsk Div is a reinforced
combat unit.
- c. Eastern area (Hq 17th Gds Rifle Div Debrecen) comprises
northeast Hungary with an apparently light occupation (security
mission?). The 128th Gds Mt Rifle Div (?), formerly observed
in this area, could no longer be confirmed. The 17th Gds Rifle
Div was transferred from Szombathely to Debrecen in Oct 1957.

The high command in Budapest is directly superior to:
u/i unit Dunafoldvar, possibly arty unit (arty commander?)
or army reserve;
u/i unit in Visegrad - Komarom - Gyos area, possibly a
river guard unit

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It is assumed that southeast Hungary is occupied by elms 24th (?)
Tank Div (Timisora) in area east of Szeged and elms (?) of another
u/i unit in Bekescaba area.

2. Training (GDR)

Activity of Soviet Army troops was limited to intensive drill in
barracks installations, driving schools, and occasional training of
small columns near post. Only individual engineer units were engaged
in movements outside of their posts. Beginning of AA firing in
Wustrow was expected for mid-Dec 1957.

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a. Engineers

26-29 Nov, assembly of 30 jeeps, 50-60 sedans and numerous engineer vehs in southern section of Muehlberg engr tng gr. A demonstration by engr units of the First Gds Meas Army (Tank) involving elms 286th Engr Bn/9th Tank Div was presum held at Elbe River for high-ranking officers []

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27 Nov, elms 36th Bridge Bldg Regt/GSFG with at least 30 vehs, pontoons and assault boats left Saack Kaserne (5287), Magdeburg, for a one-day practice near post []

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7 and 9 Dec, three columns with a total of 120 engr vehs incl numerous TMP pontoons moved in direction of Naun west of Doeberitz; origin and destination u/i []

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12 Dec, presum elms 3d Engr Regt/Fourth Gds Meas Army with appr 30 trucks with TMP pontoons left Potsdam moving in northwestern direction []

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b. AAA Units

29-30 Nov, elms 3d Gds AAA Div with 6x100-mm AA guns and 6x57-mm AA guns towed by prime movers left Magdeburg for short-term training in Letslinger Heide []

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6 Dec, firing detail of 3d Gds AAA Div with 3x100-mm AA guns, 4 trucks with personnel and equipment presum from Wustrow loaded at Brueckfeld rr station, Magdeburg []

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(Comment: Training of engineer troops at this time is unusual and still u/i, while training of other troops is normal. The announced beginning of AAA firing practices would agree with previous years. In 1956, the new firing period in Wustrow also started in mid-Dec.)

II. GDR

Training

The new training year will begin early Jan 1958. Adequate preparation by cadre personnel was completed before Christmas 1957 []

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Elms 27th Mts Rifle Regt that transferred to Luebtheen tng gr on 25 Nov, returned to Schwerin-Stern (Buchholz) post on 3 Dec []

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After absence of about 14 days, return to Potsdam post of bulk 1st AAA Regt allegedly from Altengrabow tng gr expected betw 10 and 15 Dec []

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(Comment: Both regiments presum engaged in firing and weapon tng. Training activity during first half of Dec similar to that in Nov.)

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[redacted] field newspapers will be daily distributed by political organs with the cooperation of umpires to units involved in several-day practices; field newspapers will include criticism on training phases [redacted]

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III. Poland

Order of Battle

In May 1957, 9th Mts Rifle Regt/14th Mts Rifle Div in Schneidemuhl, [redacted] deactivated. The 400 recruits of the regt were transferred to other units outside of Schneidemuhl post on 1 May. An additional 400 soldiers of 2d year of service were discharged on 4 May 1957 after 17 months of service. The vacant quarters of 9th Mts Rifle Regt were immediately occupied by Tank Unit [redacted] previously quartered in same barracks installation. On 1 and 2 May 1957, this unit was reinforced by soldiers who wore red and/or black cap bands. These soldiers probably were recruits who had received training with other units. All newly arrived personnel were immediately issued black cap bands [redacted]

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(Comment: This info confirms the deactivation of the 9th Mts Rifle Regt. The soldiers of the regt who were not discharged were distributed to other units outside of the division area. This supports the assumption that the 14th Mts Rifle Div was either deactivated or merged with another division. Of the units of the division determined during the second half of 1957, only the 49th Mts Rifle Regt (Deutsch Krone) was confirmed until Sep 1957.

Tank Unit [redacted] was repeatedly reported as tank reconnaissance battalion equipped with T-34s, four-wheel APCs, and motorcycles with sidecars. Its subordination has not been determined. The strength was estimated at 250 men in Apr 1957. Unit is allegedly to be increased to regimental strength. The arrivals in May possibly filled up only the vacancies of the battalion.)

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Annex to Part C

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Details on Par "Training" GDR

a. Engr Units

26-29 Nov, traffic posts, road blocks, 24 tents, one veh park with 5 buses, 30 jeeps, appr 50 to 60 sedans and an additional large number of vehs of all kinds observed in Kreinitz - Kacobsthal - Fichtenberg - Kaitzschhaeuser area (southern portion of Muehlberg engr tng site). Immediately on the Elbe River bank, 3 observation posts, between them benches arranged in terrace form. Noises and tracks of full-track amph vehs observed in the entire engr tng area.

One shed at Mudra Kaserne (1801), Riesa, almost completely vacant from vehs loaded with TMP steel pontoons which had previously been parked there

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(Comment: Assumed that engr tng demonstration, presum before higher officers, held in area of Muehlberg engr tng site. Purpose and development of exercise not determined. According to observations at posts and vehicle observed, elements 286th Engr Bn/9th Tank Div and addition elms of engr units/First Gds Mecz Army (Tank involved.)

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27 Nov, 0630, Seeckt Kaserne (5287), Magdeburg: departure of at least 30 vehs loaded with pontoons, assault boats and other engr equipment toward eastern direction.

1800, return of column to kaserne

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(Comment: Departure of elms 36th Bridge Bldg Regt/GSFG for a day's exercise, presum in Biederitzer Busch area.)

7 and 9 Dec, west of Doeberitz on Hamburger Chaussee from eastern direction and proceeding toward Nauen: 3 columns with engr equipment, incl approximate total of 120 vehs incl trucks with TMP steel pontoons

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12 Dec, noon, Potsdam: departure of engr column from kasernes north of Pappelallee toward Bornstedt. Column incl appr 30 trucks with TMP steel pontoons, two vehs with hoisting gear and 1 jeep

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(Comment: Origin and destination of engr columns observed on 7 and 9 Dec undetermined for the time being. Column departing on 12 Dec presum involved elms 3d Engr Regt/4th Gds Mecz Army.)

b. AAA Units

29 Nov, Magdeburg: following columns crossing northern road bridge in western direction observed:

8 li prime movers, 6 x 57-mm AT guns, 1 range finder, 1 radar, 1 charging unit, 2 trucks;

10 M-54 prime movers, 6 x 100-mm AA guns, 1 range finder, 1 radar, 7 additional vehs.

30 Nov, return of both columns over northern road bridge in eastern direction

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(Comment: Presum elms 3d Gds AAA Div which departed for short-term training to Letzlinger Heide.)

6 Dec, Brueckfeld rr station, Magdeburg: entraining of 3 x 100-mm AA guns on prime movers, 4 trucks occupied by personnel, crates and equipment, 1 field kitchen, 2 charging units

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After 15 Dec, arrival of advance details at Wustrow firing range assumed. Beginning of firing practices scheduled for late December

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(Comment: Also in 1956, new firing period started at Wustrow firing range in mid-December. Entraining in Magdeburg presum involved advance detail of 3d Gds AAA Div/Third Shock Army (Mecz).)

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D. Air Force

I. USSR

1. Location of Troops

Until May 1957, about 70 Mi-4 helicopters, 70 transporters, numerous biplanes and small trainers were observed at Kaunas airfield (Aleksoten, 5453 N - 2353 E) [redacted]

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(Comment:

Kaunas airfield is believed to be occupied by 1 helicopter school, 2 transport regiments and 1 helicopter transport unit.)

On 12 Sep 1957, 30 IL-28s took off from Pushkin airfield (5942 N - 3021 E) within one hour [redacted]

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(Comment:

The observed IL-28s confirm the previously assumed presence in Pushkin of a reconnaissance regiment equipped with IL-28s.)

2. Command and Training of Troops

Until June 1957, a technical officer school was located at Eydtkunen airfield (5438 N - 2243 E) which had been built in 1947. Training courses lasted for one year. A total of 43 single-engine, twin-engine and four-engine trainers were available [redacted]

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(Comment:

Eydtkunen airfield was reported previously. Technical flying school mentioned first time.)

3. Logistics

On 4 Dec 1957, runway lighting system was completed and tested on Finow airfield [redacted]. About 1200 on 11 Dec, a swept-back twin-jet aircraft, probably a Yak-25, circled twice over Finow airfield and approached for landing [redacted]

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(Comment:

Probably test landing on completed runway (extended to the east by about 200 meters. Reoccupation by flying unit possible at any time. Formerly occupied by Ftr Regt Gross Doelln with MiG-17s, MiG-19s, and Yak-25s. Previously occupied by courier squadron of Fourth Gds Mech Army. Since Nov 1957, personnel have arrived in Finow restricted area; about 400 men observed on 14 Nov and about 1,000 men on 23 Nov.

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II. Poland

1. Location of Troops

Sep 1957, Oppeln-Gumpertsdorf airfield (5038 N - 1747 E) occupied by about 200 Polish personnel and 15 PO-2s, u/i number of UT-2s (?), 36 low-wing monoplanes, probably IL-10s. No air activity. IL-10s observed first time in mid-Jun 1957. Aircraft allegedly delivered to Poland from Czechoslovakia

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(Comment:

Apparently concentration of IL-10s which were withdrawn from service. Delivery of other aircraft from Czechoslovakia unconfirmed.)

In spring 1957, Polish Ftr Regt in Powidz (5223 N - 1751 E) was activated by Ftr Div Hq Breslau-Schoengarten (5106 N - 1655 E) with the support of Ftr Regt Breslau-Schoengarten. Between spring and summer 1957, Ftr Regt Breslau-Schoengarten trains 30 young fighter pilots: Local flights and cross-country flights with UMIG-15s, local flights with two-ship formation flights with MIG-15s, firing with gun camera of MIG-15s flying in elements of two, night local flights by UMIG-15s

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(Comment:

This confirms presence of previously assumed Ftr Div Hq in Breslau-Schoengarten, Div Hq superior to Ftr Regts at Breslau-Schoengarten, Powidz and Poznan-Krzesiny (5220 N - 1658 E).)

2. Command and Training of Troops

Until Aug 1957, Polish Air Force officers underwent training in old Polish barracks installation in Krakow (5006 N - 1955 E); probably one-year courses for future instructors in gas defense, air raid protection and atomic protection. Total strength incl cadre personnel 500 officers, 120 NCOs

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III. Bulgaria

1. Location of Troops

Until 20 Nov 1957, Gabrovinitza airfield (4333 N - 2316 E) was continuously used only by jet aircraft

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(Comment:

Airfield presumably occupied by a Bulgarian fighter regiment equipped with MIG-15s.

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E. NavyI. East Germany1. Organization of NVA/See

- a. Previous reports on the possible deactivation of the 7th Flotilla in Parow have been confirmed by various information. In addition to the minelaying and minesweeping boat, HABICHT [redacted] which is equipped with Soviet radar, three additional HABICHTs, [redacted] were transferred to the 1st Flotilla. ([redacted])

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[redacted] HABICHT [redacted] was observed at the Peene Shipyard. The minelaying and minesweeping boats, HABICHTs [redacted], believed to be identical [redacted] previously assigned to the 7th Flotilla.

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(Comment: HABICHT [redacted] will probably be transferred to the 1st Flotilla [redacted])

[redacted] She is no longer required with the 9th Ship Instruction Flotilla (9. Baubelehrungsflottille) since KRAKE [redacted] is available as training boat for KRAKE crews.)

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b.

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(Comment: The KRAKES mentioned belong to the 4th Flotilla in Warnemuende. It remains to be seen, if, according to schedule, KRAKES [redacted] will be put into service [redacted])

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- c. The first torpedo recovery vessel of NVA/See of SPERBER type [redacted] made its acceptance trip with 4 torpedos aboard [redacted] and reached a speed of 13.22 knots.

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(Comment: The boat has no davit for taking torpedos on board. Technical data: overall length, 26 meters; designed waterline, 24.15 meters; length between perpendiculars: 24 meters; width, 4.35 meters; draft 1.4 meters; dead weight capacity, 99 tons.)

2. Equipment of NVA/See Vessels

- a. It is known that the inshore minesweeping pinnaces of SCHWALBE type, which are assigned to NVA/See, are being modernized. They are being equipped with new main and auxiliary engines, W/T gears, 25-mm twin-barreled AA guns, and their weight is being lightened. [redacted]

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[redacted] The following additional information was obtained: [redacted] construction No 28, finished, acceptance trip after modernization; [redacted] construction No 29. was turned over after modernization [redacted] construction

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[redacted] was turned over after modernization [redacted]
[redacted] construction No 31, was turned over after
modernization [redacted] It is also planned
to install water drums in the forecastle of SCHWALBEs,
construction Nos 25 thru 42, these drums are to provide for
a better stability when water flows in through fire
extinguishing plant in heavy sea [redacted]

25X1

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- b. The coastal protection boats of the second construction series
including the tactical [redacted] were equipped with
Tamir installations at Peenemuende base [redacted]

25X1

(Comment: Some of the coastal protection boats had already
been equipped with Soviet underwater hydrophones of Tamir X
type. The equipment of the coastal protection boats of the 3rd
Flotilla with these hydrophones indicates that NVA/See will
not be assigned modern submarine chasers (project "Hai") in
the manufacture.

II. Bulgaria

Observation of a RIGA Escort Destroyer in a Bulgarian Harbor

An escort destroyer of the RIGA Class [redacted] which was the
first to be observed [redacted] at Varna Harbor (Stalin)
[redacted] was again observed on [redacted] in Varna Harbor.
It is therefore probable that the destroyer is one of the two
escort destroyers which were allegedly turned over by the USSR to
the Bulgarian Navy. [redacted] particularly since RIGAs
[redacted] have not yet been observed
in the Black Sea [redacted].

25X1

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III. Syria

Coastal Defense Installations in Latakia

[redacted] an AA battery was observed
on the hills south and southeast of the harbor. Three guns of
medium caliber could be clearly made out from the sea. Four light
AA guns, one each at the northern end, in the center, and at the
curve of the new manger plate, and another one on a pole next to the
northern shed were observed in the harbor area. Three light AA guns
including one of about 37-mm caliber and mounted on a single gun
carriage, and two of about 20-mm caliber mounted on a triple gun carriage,
with barrels side by side were seen north of the harbor along the
seaside promenade. The gun crew was in nearby tents which were
surrounded by sandbags [redacted]

25X1

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(Comment: The AAA emplacement in the center of the new mole is the
only one of the above-mentioned emplacements which has been known
[redacted] Another emplacement with 3 guns is located near the
El Burj light and has repeatedly been confirmed. All other emplacements
are new, and show, if confirmed, the increasing significance of the
harbor for deliveries of Soviet weapons and material.)

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F. Paramilitary and Paramilitary Training

GDR

1. German Border Police

Border police personnel transferred to AZKW service, including f.e. 40 men of Wartha border control office (GKA), a former pass control point (KPP) [redacted]

25X1

(Comment: As presumed, the AZKW and the subordinate border control offices require a larger number of experienced personnel for fulfilling increased missions including pass control.)

Since late Sep/early Oct 1957, the "Bereitschaften" along the demarcation line and the Ring-um-Berlin have been re-organized as a result of the reported reorganization of border police into border troops. At the same time, the Abschnittsverwaltungen (section administration) were renamed brigades. The staff of the Koepfelsdorf border police Bereitschaft was dissolved on 20 Nov 1957 [redacted]

25X1

(Comment: [redacted] In connection with these changes, it can be expected that a reserve for the Abteilung and/or a reinforced reserve for the Bereitschaft or Brigades will be built up; for this reserve mainly heavy weapons have been delivered.)

25X1

Beginning in Feb/Mar 1957, Grenzlehrbereitschaften (GLB) (border training Bereitschaften) have been activated from Dittrichshuette training and instruction regiment with the purpose of building up brigade reserves which train young NCOs according to directives issued by the Brigades. Training Bereitschaften exist for:

Brigade I (Perleberg) since mid-Jun in Perleberg, since Sep apparently in Gleeven

Brigade II (Magdeburg) since May/Jun 1957 in Magdeburg

Brigade III (Erfurt) since Feb 1957 in Nordhausen

Brigade IV (Dittrichshuette) in Dittrichshuette. since Dec 1957 presum in Rudolstadt [redacted]

25X1

(Comment: It can be assumed that the training regiment in Ludwigsfelde and the training battalion in Gleeven have been, or will be, subordinated to Brigade V (Gross Glienicke) and Brigade VI (Postock) as GLBs respectively.)

2. VP

Beginning 1 Oct 1957, the VP Bereitschaften East Berlin have been withdrawn from service in the sector and replaced by personnel of Berlin police stations [redacted]

25X1

(Comment: Info confirms the withdrawal of at least 3rd VP Bereitschaft. [redacted] It remains to be seen whether only reinforcement or other reasons account for this measure.)

25X1

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